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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

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February 26, 1965

Cattle and Calves Inventory Up to Record High--Dairy Cows at 60-Year Low

According to the Crop Reporting Board there were 107.2 million cattle and calves on farms and ranches on January 1, 1965, a record high, but only slightly greater than the 106.7 million head a year earlier. A decline of 3 percent in the number of milk animals was more than offset by an increase in beef-type cattle. The number of milk cows and heifers 2 years old and older decreased 3 percent to 17.6 million head--the smallest number since 1904. The inventory of beef cows increased 3 percent, while the number of steers 1 year and older declined 5 percent.

The number of cattle and calves was below a year earlier in 23 States, but 21 States had more cattle on hand January 1. Six States showed no change. Montana and South Dakota had gains of 5 percent each, the largest percentage increase. New Mexico had the sharpest percentage drop, 12 percent.

Domestic Slaughter Rises-- Imports Continue to Decline

Commercial cattle slaughter for the 48 States during 1964 totaled 30,777,600 head, up 13 percent from the year before. Calf slaughter, at 7,227,200 head, increased 6 percent.

Imports of live cattle from Canada and Mexico totaled 546,613 head during 1964, compared with 851,754 head in 1963.

Winter Weather Extremes Shape Farm Work

Farmers, always close to weather influence, had some extremes to contend with during January 1965. In the Pacific Northwest the continued excess of moisture caused added damage and discouraging work. All major rivers in both western and eastern Washington were above flood stage at the end of the month and lowland farm lands along the streams were under water. Similar problems plagued some Oregon farmers.

Much of the Mountain State region had a relatively mild January that aided livestock operations and saved stored feed. Many areas of the region received above normal rain or snow. Many reservoirs are filled and a large snow-pack to date is being watched for possible spring flooding if a rapid melt should occur. In contrast, the continued drought in eastern Colorado was only slightly eased in January. Livestock in some sections of the mountain region continued on full winter feed.

South Atlantic States had extended periods of open weather in January that aided progress in land preparation. Most tobacco growers in this area had tobacco beds prepared and planted.

Farmers in North Central States mostly were held to a mid-winter minimum of chores and livestock care. Cold weather required heavy feeding in most sections. There was, however, some grazing of wheat fields in southern Kansas.

In mid-Atlantic States and in New England the wintry weather restricted farm work but brought much needed moisture--both snow and rain--to soak soils and replenish water supplies.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective Parity Prices Based on Data for Jan. 1965
	Dec. 1964	Jan. 1965	
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.)..... ct.	29.30	27.65	41.27
Wheat (bu.)..... dol.	1.39	1.38	2.52
Rice (100 lb.)	5.01	5.16	6.50
Corn (bu.)..... dol.	1.14	1.15	1.55
Peanuts (lb.)	11.4	11.5	14.3
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Milkfat in cream (lb.)	59.6	59.2	78.9
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.)..... dol.	4.48	1 4.41	5.52
Wool (lb.)..... dol.	2 49.0	2 48.0	81.8
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.)	dol. .970	.961	1.23
Cottonseed (ton)..... dol.	48.60	49.20	62.10
Flaxseed (bu.)	dol. 2.90	2.91	3.80
Hay, baled (ton)..... dol.	24.40	25.30	27.30
Oats (bu.)	dol. .641	.656	.840
Potatoes (cwt.)..... dol.	3.40	3.98	2.55
Rye (bu.)	dol. .974	.940	1.37
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.)..... dol.	1.93	1.94	2.43
Soybeans (bu.)..... dol.	2.71	2.73	3.00
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.)	dol. 5.72	5.88	5.96
Oranges, on tree (box)	dol. 2.97	2.98	3.49
Apples, for fresh use (bu.)...	dol. 2.45	2.45	3.16
Beef cattle (100 lb.)..... dol.	17.40	18.00	25.40
Calves (100 lb.)	dol. 19.10	20.20	29.10
Hogs (100 lb.)	dol. 14.70	15.40	21.10
Lambs (100 lb.)..... dol.	19.10	20.30	25.10
Chickens, all (lb.)	ct. 13.1	13.8	21.9
Eggs (dozen)	ct. 39.2	30.9	.47.2

¹ Preliminary

² Does not include incentive payment

Fewer Hogs

Hogs and pigs on farms and ranches in the United States on January 1, 1965 totaled 53,052,000 head, 9 percent less than both the 58,119,000 a year earlier, and the 58,217,000 on hand December 1, 1964.

The inventory of hogs decreased in all regions, although several States showed increases. The number of hogs and pigs on farms January 1, 1965 in the Corn Belt (12 North-Central States) decreased 8 percent from a year earlier to 41,960,000 head. Iowa, the leading hog-producing State, had 5 percent fewer hogs on farms on

January 1, 1965 than a year earlier. Numbers of hogs on farms in the North Atlantic and South Atlantic regions were each down 10 percent. Decreases were 13 percent in the South-Central region and 12 percent in the Western region.

The hog-corn price ratio was lower in 1964 despite slightly higher prices for corn, because hog prices were slightly lower in 1964 than in 1963.

Fewer Stock Sheep and Lambs

The number of stock sheep declined for the fifth consecutive year. The January 1, 1965 number of stock sheep declined 4 percent from a year earlier to 23,341,000 head--the smallest number on record in nearly a century. Numbers of sheep and lambs on feed for slaughter market on January 1, 1965 declined 9 percent to 3,327,000 head--the lowest number since 1918. The aggregate of stock sheep and sheep and lambs being fed was 26,668,000 head--5 percent less than a year earlier.

Stock sheep inventories in all classes were lower than a year earlier. Ewes one year and older totaled 18,732,000 head compared with 19,462,000 for January 1, 1964--a 4 percent decline. The number of ewe lambs totaled 3,003,000 head--7 percent below the 3,213,000 head on January 1, 1964. Rams 1 year old and older, at 748,000,000 head, were 3 percent below a year earlier. Wether and ram lambs, and wethers 1 year and older were down 5 percent.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	1964				1965
	Jan.	Year	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹ ..	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Farm employment	63.2	65.6	66.2	66.6	65.3
Family	4.5	6.1	5.2	4.4	4.0
Hired	3.7	4.5	4.0	3.6	3.3
Nonfarm8	1.6	1.2	.8	.7
Index number (1957-59 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	128	132	135	137	138
Total personal income payments ³	131	135	138	139	140
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	118	125	130	131	129
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	119	123	124	127	125
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴	101	100	101	101	101
Farm commodities	96	94	94	93	93
Food, processed	102	101	101	101	102
Consumer price index ⁴	108	108	109	109	--
Food	106	106	107	107	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers	243	236	234	234	236
Crops	243	237	232	234	236
Food grains	230	190	168	168	168
Feed grains and hay	166	166	161	171	174
Cotton	254	260	254	247	233
Tobacco	488	490	491	496	485
Oil bearing crops	268	256	263	273	275
Fruit	300	295	277	267	271
Commercial vegetables	270	245	265	249	226
Livestock and products	242	235	236	234	238
Meat animals	274	269	260	261	272
Dairy products	265	256	277	272	269
Poultry and eggs	154	142	143	139	136
Prices paid by farmers	283	282	282	283	285
All commodities	298	300	301	301	303
Used in living	273	270	269	270	272
Used in production	313	313	313	313	317
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index)	313	313	313	313	317
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	673	693	694	694	708
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	78	75	75	75	74

¹ Bureau of the Census. ² Federal Reserve Board. ³ Department of Commerce. ⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics - any figures not available at press time omitted.

Beef	Mil. lb.	16,049	18,018
Veal	Mil. lb.	847	920
Pork	Mil. lb.	11,863	12,005
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	757	704
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	29,516	31,647

¹ January 1963 and 1964.

² Ready-to-cook.

³ Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

Goats Increasing In Texas

The January 1, 1965 number of goats and kids on Texas farms and ranches was 4,060,000 head, 4 percent above the 3,904,000 head on January 1, 1964. The total inventory value of goats in Texas was \$28.4 million compared with \$29.3 a year earlier. Average value per head this January was \$7.00, down 50 cents from January 1 a year ago.

More Chickens

The number of chickens on farms in the United States on January 1, 1965 (excluding commercial broilers) was 376,714,000, an increase of 2 percent from a year earlier. The number of chickens was up 6 percent in both the South Atlantic and South Central States, and up 4 percent in the Western States. Decreases of 5 percent occurred in West North Central States and 2 percent in the North Atlantic States, but the East North Central region was unchanged.

Pullet Numbers Up

The number of all pullets on farms January 1, 1965 is estimated at 222,711,000 birds as compared with 215,781,000 a year earlier--an increase of 3 percent. Regionally, there were 9 percent more in the South Atlantic and South Central, 4 percent in the West, and 3 percent in the East North Central. Decreases by regions were 4 percent in the West North Central and 3 percent in the North Atlantic States. There were 134,409,000 hens on January 1, 1965, compared with 134,894,000 on January 1, 1965. Regional increases in hens were 5 percent in the West, 2 percent in the South Central, and 1 percent in the South Atlantic States. There were decreases of 7 percent in the West North Central and 5 percent in the East North Central. The North Atlantic region had about the same number as on January 1, 1964. The number of other chickens on January 1, 1965 was 19,594,000, up 2 percent from the 19,284,000 a year earlier.

More Turkeys

Turkeys (excluding fryers) on January 1, 1965 totaled 6,471,000 birds, 4 percent more than a year earlier.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-Food Products

Year and Month	Retail Cost ¹	Farm Value ²	Farm-Retail Spread	Farmer's Share
1963 average	\$1,013	\$374	\$639	37%
1964 October	1,022	380	642	37%
1964 November	1,018	378	640	37%
1964 December	1,020	375	645	37%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities purchased per household in 1960-61 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families and single workers living alone, calculated from retail prices collected by the Bur. Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

More Turkey Breeder Hens

The number of turkey breeder hens on January 1, 1965 was 3,835,000 birds, 1 percent above the 3,786,000 a year earlier. Most of the breeder hens--3,410,000--were heavy breeds, 1 percent more than the 3,382,000 on hand January 1, 1964. Regionally, the number of heavy breeder hens

Cash Receipts from Farm Marketings, by States, December 1964¹

State	Livestock and Products	Crops	Total
NORTH ATLANTIC REGION			
Maine	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.	1,000 dol.
New Hampshire	10,414	10,710	21,124
Vermont	3,891	826	4,717
Massachusetts	9,953	936	10,889
Rhode Island	8,918	6,103	15,021
Connecticut	1,059	977	2,036
New York	8,141	5,290	13,431
New Jersey	54,104	23,522	77,626
Pennsylvania	11,597	5,451	17,048
	50,296	14,154	64,450
NORTH CENTRAL REGION			
Ohio	56,421	37,132	93,553
Indiana	54,216	41,678	95,894
Illinois	96,532	88,350	184,882
Michigan	32,383	30,874	63,257
Wisconsin	87,537	11,180	98,717
Minnesota	94,573	43,779	138,352
Iowa	193,598	55,373	248,971
Missouri	65,269	29,854	95,123
North Dakota	15,617	21,452	37,069
South Dakota	46,934	10,721	57,655
Nebraska	59,747	47,479	107,226
Kansas	60,518	30,722	91,240
SOUTHERN REGION			
Delaware	6,263	1,514	7,777
Maryland	15,990	6,753	22,743
Virginia	19,834	25,117	44,951
West Virginia	5,223	3,141	8,364
North Carolina	28,159	52,677	80,836
South Carolina	10,139	20,675	30,814
Georgia	35,716	11,569	47,285
Florida	18,941	83,924	102,865
Kentucky	24,847	195,257	220,104
Tennessee	21,398	73,432	94,830
Alabama	27,403	15,201	42,604
Mississippi	24,520	38,537	63,057
Arkansas	25,434	61,690	87,124
Louisiana	12,138	48,890	61,028
Oklahoma	25,806	28,564	54,370
Texas	87,047	272,932	359,979
WESTERN REGION			
Montana	13,270	15,619	28,889
Idaho	15,413	32,551	47,964
Wyoming	5,792	5,180	10,972
Colorado	38,649	22,860	61,509
New Mexico	9,687	18,957	28,644
Arizona	12,115	62,562	74,677
Utah	11,655	3,696	15,351
Nevada	3,112	1,318	4,430
Washington	18,817	26,652	45,469
Oregon	15,625	15,535	31,160
California	116,115	252,438	368,553
UNITED STATES	1,670,826	1,913,804	3,584,630
United States, Jan.-Dec	19,928,691	16,819,616	36,748,307
Same Period, year ago	19,879,761	17,045,566	36,925,327

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

on January 1, 1965 was higher in the West North Central, South Atlantic, and Western regions, but there was a decrease in turkey numbers in the other 3 regions. Light breeder hens increased 5 percent from a year earlier to 425,000.

January Milk Production Up

January milk production in the United States is estimated at 10,342 million pounds, 2 percent more than in January 1964, 4 percent above

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	December 1964	January 1965
CASH RECEIPTS		
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	3,585	3,300
Livestock and products	1,671	1,700
Meat animals.....	933	
Dairy products	427	
Poultry and eggs	288	
Other.....	23	
Crops	1,914	1,600
Food grains.....	106	
Feed crops.....	308	
Cotton (lint and seed).....	476	
Oil-bearing crops.....	178	
Tobacco.....	299	
Vegetables	175	
Fruits and tree nuts	150	
Other	222	
Government payments	50	
Grand total	3,635	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:	1957-59	100
All commodities.....	137	127
Livestock and products.....	119	116
Crops	161	141

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month. Details may not add to totals because of rounding.

average for the month, and 2 percent above the previous record high for the month set in 1962. The seasonal increase in production from December 1964 to January 1965 was slightly less than the increase a year earlier.

Milk production estimates for 1964 have been revised and add to an annual total of 126,598 million pounds, 1.3 percent more than the revised 1963 total of 125,009 million pounds and 0.5 percent above the previous record high set in 1962.

Citrus Production 16 Percent Higher

Total citrus production for the 1964-65 season is expected to increase 16 percent from last year. More oranges and grapefruit but fewer lemons are in prospect. By February 1 approximately 35 percent of the oranges and 45 percent of the grapefruit had been harvested. Losses from the Florida freeze of January 17-18 were not expected to be heavy.

Winter Potato Production Forecast Up 1 Percent

Production of winter potatoes is estimated at 3,730,000 hundredweight, 1 percent more than 1964. Weather during January was favorable for growth in both California and Florida, except for a mid-January frost in Florida. The over-all damage in Florida was small.

Fall Seeded Grains Favored

Mild temperatures in the Southern Plains area favored winter grains in areas where moisture was available. Growth was limited, but winter wheat was considered in good to excellent condition from central Kansas southward through Oklahoma into Texas. Snowfall late in January alleviated somewhat critical moisture shortages in areas stretching from the Panhandles of Texas and Oklahoma through eastern Colorado and western Kansas. However, wheat will need more moisture before growth starts in the spring.

William T. Schanger, Editor